WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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The Passing Show.

"We are not going to be Chinese slaves."—Sir Edward Carson. The "we," of course, doesn't refer to the worker.

"It is a melancholy thing to find the democratic army split asunder."—Mr. Asquith. Class lines are becoming more clearly defined.

There is much discussion over the increase of lunacy, and really, the world does appear to be going mad. The capitalists are too crazy to live without robbing, and the workers too crazy to protest.

The poor and the rich both believe they are essential to each other. The poor think they could not get along without the rich, and the rich believe they could not get along without poor slaves.

What is wanted now more than ever before is revolutionary education. Teach the workers to rely on themselves.

"Reform is proving itself inadequate. Australia has for years had labour laws galore, yet the average tribute of the Corporations for 1913 in that country was 8¼ per cent. on the investment." "Appeal to Reason." Yes, and a deep growl from the plutes that it was not enough.

John Kenneth Turner, author of "Barbarous Mexico," is investigating the assaults, deportations, and cold-blooded murders, perpetrated by gunmen in West Virginia, Calumet, and Colorado for the "Appeal to Reason." Brother Jonathan enjoyed Turner's "Barbarous Mexico," but it is doubtful if he will like Barbarous America so well.

A wage-slave who gets past the middle age under capitalism should know by that time that he has never really lived. If he is happy, it is because he sees others enjoying what he ought to have, and finds a great satisfaction in voting to keep them in enjoyment. In fact, he is a "shingle short," and should have been seen to long before he reached middle age.

The Premier diamond mines of South Africa last year paid 750 per cent. dividends on the capital stock. To make the dividends workers died like flies, yet when survivors asked for a little more wages the Government shot them and deported their leaders. Capitalist government there makes no secret of the fact that it exists solely to hold the workers down while they are being skinned.

Witwatersrand Deep, after paying 15 per cent. on one set of shares, and 20 per cent. on another, carried forward a balance of over £111,000. A litle saving for a rainy day when the cloud bursts and a shower of denunciatory strike speeches comes.

"Manufacturers' Week" in Sydney demonstrated that this is a land of plenty—for suckers. Plate-glass windows indicated that the poor might look but not touch.

Capitalism ruins the toiler to crown the spoiler. It robs the useful that the useless may live in luxury.

Under Socialism commonsense will be more common than ever it could be under capitalism.

Of old it was the custom of the slaver to give those who asked for bread a stone. Now he frequently gives them a bullet or a crack with a policeman's baton.

The worker who is refused bread now-a-days does sometimes get a stone, but it is placed above his remains in the cemetery. Even then it is a very small stone in comparison with that which the exploiter gets.

The salaries paid by the Commonwealth and States to the figureheads of capitalism known as Governors, are as follows:—

Commonwealth	£10,000
New South Wales	5,000
Victoria	5,000
South Australia	4,000
Queensland	3,000
Tasmania	2,750
Western Australia	4,000
	£33,750

Manufacturers' Week in Sydney from the Workers' Standpoint.

The capitalists pay these popinjays to go to Shows and racecourses so that William Mug may look at and worship them. They assume that the coming storm can be prevented by puppets in military dress. They are something like the Chinese who attempt to scare evil spirits away with crackers.

The cable-crammer informs us that Sir George Reid was given another dinner in London. No wonder East-end poor find provisions scarce.

Mr. Garland, a N.S.W. M.L.C., says "Compulsory service has already caused an all-round improvement in the larrikin class." Yes, judging by the appearance of some of the drill halls in and around Sydney they are better shots with road metal and bottles. Every window has been smashed in some of them.

"However comfortable a man is on his bed, a time comes when he wants to turn over."—Root. The working class now wants to turn over and try a change of position.

According to evidence given before a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the state of the Federal rolls, Queensland under Appel, Cahill, and Company, is about th rottenest State in the Commonwealth. Some 30,000 names were on the rolls which should not be there, while Cahill and his hirelings spend their time in stifling free speech. With the rolls stuffed and free speech destroyed, the crooks thought themselves safe, but they reckoned without the Socialists.

A cablegram from London last week was to the effect that the Emperor Francis Joseph had passed a bad night. Well, the "International" knows a Sydney man who did the same, but though one event was as important as the other, only one is deemed worth cabling round the world.

The latest cables regarding Mexico state that the priests are leaving the country. They are afraid of General Villa, someone having circulated a story to the effect that he intends to execute all priests.

Speaking at the annual demonstration of the Sydney City Mission on May 5, Sir Chas. Makellar said: "The great cause of the misery of the people of the city and in all large towns of New South Wales is drunkenness of one or both parents; that is to say, the misery which comes upon people apart from the death or long-continued sickness of the breadwinner." In making such a statement Dr. Makellar was either talking down to his audience or displaying want of knowledge of this subject of his discourse, which was "Poverty: Its Cause and Effect." Drunkenness is an effect of rotten social conditions. It is one of the effects of capitalism—an idiotic system which breeds poverty, despair, millionaires, unemployment, and wage-slavery. The average worker's lot under capitalism is hopeless, and the "cup that cheers" offers what seems at least temporary relief.

The "Sydney Morning Herald" states that Sir Ernest Shackleton received a letter from Queen Alexandra, in which her Majesty wished him God speed on his trip to Anarctica. England thus seems to have two Queens, Alexandra and Mary.

The Anglican Archbishop of Sydney has drawn up and authorised a special prayer for use in the Diocese, that peace and righteousness may rule in Ireland. It is a short and handy prayer and can be pasted in one's hat, carried in the waistcoat pocket, or glued to a prayer wheel to be revolved as many thousand times morning and evening as may be thought desirable or effective. Our religious editor strongly recommends its use, as he says it must be effective seeing that the Archbishop gets £15,000 a year to make such prayers.

Referring to the Takapan territorial camp riot, General Sir Ian Hamilton said that "the little trouble at that camp had certainly a serious aspect. . . . There were people who were not their friends, who might rejoice when they heard anything which they thought was a sign of military weakness. The matter was really trivial. The youths, partly in a larking way, and partly because they were uncomfortable, had made a bit of a ruction. The defence scheme was in its infancy. In a couple of years time such incidents would not happen." By that time the militarist faction hope to implant their poison so firmly in the youthful mind that revolt against any evil or discomfort will be the last thing thought of. Minds, like bodies, will then be a "drab khaki," and the average worker will be about as alert and intelligent as the average ox.

Mr. G. Fox, a member of the Council of the Employers' Federation of N.S.W., stated a few days ago that the cost of living inquiry held a short time ago by Mr. Heydon, had cost the employers £5,000. "This," he said, "indicated the cost of fighting industrial cases. In the instance referred to the expenditure was justified from the employers' point of view." A fine tribute to the efficiency of Industrial Courts and to the benefits to be derived from Arbitration. The workers will easily see where they come in.

The Council of the Home for Veteran Soldiers and Sailors of the Empire, inaugurated at Bare Island, La Perouse, N.S.W., a little over two years ago, is appealing for funds to enable the work of assisting the old warriors to be continued. Most of the old men receive the old-age pension from our grateful masters, as they are too old to do any more fighting for the exploiters. They are put upon Bare Island to enjoy the beautiful scenery and feed upon the sea breeze. Anything in the way of fresh air and sea views is supposed to be very satisfying and nourishing for worn-out "Sons of the Sea" and boys of the "Bulldog Breed."

There was a brilliant scene at N.S.W. State Government House, Rose Bay, on May 8, when the Governor and Lady Edeline Strickland gave a garden party to the local nabobs. The working class was represented at the function by J. H. Cann, Arthur Griffith, J. Trefle, and other well-known labour leaders, who, apparently, were quite at home with the representatives of the aristocratic and ornamental classes. It must be a great comfort to the workers to know that the labour movement is progressing so rapidly that even their Parliamentary representatives are allowed to sit at the same table and feast with the "upper" classes. They will know that we are getting Socialism a "step at a time."

None of the pars on this page or any other of the "International Socialist" should be regarded as containing satire, or what is known in rough-and-tumble circles as a "punch," for certain quondam friends are declaring that none of our writers have a "punch," and that, in fact, we have all lost it. If any of our readers should happen to see a likely-looking person with our lost "punch," have a good look at him, because he is a superman, who, had he but a fair chance at a basket of eggs with a big stick, would do much execution. The gent, we mean will be easily distinguished by his inability to see a joke or appreciate the difference between a sharp literary thrust and a bucket of mud discharged at random. As Bosh Fillings—or was it Josh Billings?—would say, such "peepul want everything labelled," so that they may distinguish the fun from the funeral notices.

"The Bulletin" (7/5/14) has a picture by Norman Lindsay, illustrative of its foreign outlook. According to the "Bulletin" the foreigner is a criminal of the Bill Sykes variety, who prowls round waiting to find the daughter's bedroom door open, and the safe unlocked. Of course, the daughter is, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, and the old man's safe contains only hard-earned, honest cash, which 'twould be a shame not to defend to the last pot of ink.

Our very "democratic" contemporary, the "Australian Worker," is rapidly developing. It now publishes portraits of "stouch" artists in each issue. Hitherto, capitalist sheets have made heaps of boodle by pandering to the depraved tastes of the semi-civilised, but in future they will not have a monopoly of the business. The "Worker" only wants a column of Church news to complete its outfit as a "respectable" family organ.

The Sydney branch of the Railway workers and General Labourer's Association has recommended the withdrawal from the Political Labour League, which is dominated by politicians who "represent all classes," and small shopkeepers and employers.

"All the greatest authorities who have examined the data upon which a sound forecast may be made of Australia's destiny are agreed upon one point, namely, that the one condition upon which the whites can hope to hold the country for themselves and their descendants is that they shall settle and develop it and provide it with an adequate population."—Sydney "Daily Telegraph." And not one of the "greatest authorities" has shown how this can be done under landlordism.

Monday next will be Empire Day and all the fat patriots and political prevaricators are getting ready to administer strong doses of prevarication to the school children. Socialists should forestall these gentry from the soap-boxes on Sunday.

A cable received by J. O. Moroney, Secretary of the S.L.P. in Australia, announced the death of Daniel DeLeon, the famous editor of the "Daily" and "Weekly People," on Monday May 11. In the death of the veteran Socialist, the S.L.P. and the Socialist movement loses a world-known figure.

He was a ripe scholar, a sound Marxian and a logical thinker and reasoner. As a journalist he will be long remembered for he made the "Daily" and "Weekly" People of New York famous all over the world. He was an uncompromising fighter and perhaps made enemies, but most of them will forget the strokes he gave, and remember only his great and valuable service to mankind.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for over-weight.

Mark the package "Press Matter Only," and address it "To the Editor."

Write briefly and clearly, as long and undecipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

Do not send business communications to the Editor, or literary matter to the Manager. To do so only causes confusion and delay.

If your article is not published, do not conclude that it is because it is of no merit, for it may be simply owing to the fact that it is not in accordance with the above rules. Where possible, articles of importance should be type-written.

"Some doubts might be cast on the penetration of men who, whilst they complain of the pressure of taxation, send to parliament hordes of military and naval officers who have an interest in making that taxation greater—fall into the old error of looking for grapes from thorns."
—Herbert Spencer.

A Militarist Setback.

The swashbucklers of Bathurst received a set-back on May 6, when 36 boys were being prosecuted under the Conscript Act. Raymond Gorrall, one of the 36, pleaded not guilty to a charge of having failed to attend a compulsory parade in April. Gorrall said he had been shot in the knee in 1913, and had secured two doctors' certificates stating that he was indefinitely incapacitated so far as drill was concerned. These certificates were, in his opinion, sufficient to exempt him for all time.

The prosecuting officer said the department recognised only its own doctor.

The Magistrate, Mr. C. Jennings, P.M., said: "It is quite possible that a lad could be so incapacitated that he would be unable to see the department's doctor, and do you mean to say that the certificate of an outside doctor would not be sufficient? It would certainly be sufficient for me. I want to see the certificates, and if I am satisfied that the boy could not attend drill it will not matter whether the certificate came from the Government officer or not."

The area officer informed the court that the certificates could not be found in the area office.

At the suggestion of the Bench the information was withdrawn, pending inquiry as to the whereabouts of the certificates.

The attempt to override the civil rights of private doctors by making the certificate of the military doctor the only legal certificate in a court of law was a piece of impudence that only is possible where the military swashbuckler is supreme. Happily, he has shown his hand very early in the Commonwealth, and the public can see what he is aiming at.

THE PLAIN TRUTH ABOUT THE ARMY.

T. P. O'Connor, writing for the Canadian press on the sedition in the British Army, says: "Everybody knows that this most dangerous gospel is being preached at a time when there is more serious unrest among the working classes than at any period in living history. I have some reason for believing that even before this year is out, there may be a great strike, the dimensions and affiliations of which it is impossible to measure."

He seems to think that if such a strike occurs, the army will be wanted, and owing to the sedition amongst the officers and the example set to the rank and file, the army will be useless as a strike-breaking machine.

Probably he is right. The affair in Ulster has done more to show up the army than all the Socialist propaganda that ever was.

Ulster landlords and capitalists do not want Home Rule, and to prevent it they organised and trained a private army to fight against the Government.

When the Government troops were ordered to get ready to proceed to Ulster many officers resigned, including generals of the staff.

These officers had been accustomed to regard the army as strike-breakers and scabherders, to be used to shoot and kill striking workers.

When the army was to be used to coerce a section of the capitalist class, and compel them to obey the laws of the land, the officers resigned.

This is having a tremendous effect on the working class. Recruits are hard to get and the army is being freely criticised on hundreds of platforms and in hundreds of journals.

The glamour has been stripped off soldiering. No longer do the deeds of so-called heroism done in Egypt, India, or South Africa, appeal to the imagination of the worker.

The slaves now see that the army is only used against their class, and that is is never used impartially.

The army has lost the respect of the British worker, and the capitalists in consequence fear the next big strike.

STATE BRICK WORKS.
CLOSED DOWN INDEFINITELY."

There are no present indications of an early resumption of operations at the State Brickworks, Botany. The two dismissed men have been seen by Mr. Hutton, the manager, but the nature of his report is not known to the United Labourers' Protective Society. Word has been received that the department intends making very expensive alterations, and that the works have ben closed down indefinitely. The union is inclined to regard this as so much bluff, "and," said the assistant secretary, "we intend to treat the Minister as we would any private employer. We regard the position as a lockout, and are supporting the men until a settlement can be effected."

The Minister will be more formidable than any private employer would be. He will have the Labour Government, a majority of the Parliamentary party, and all the little capitalists and would-be exploiters in the P.L.L. and the Unions behind him, and a combined effort will be made to drive the men back to work in the interests of party discipline by starving them into submission.

THE KIRK AND SOCIAL UNREST.

The Presbyterian Assembly of N.S.W. has been once more discussing social unrest, and the Moderator, the Rev. J. H. Terras, in opening the General Assembly on May 5, set out the position of the Church in the matter. He said: "The special mission of the Church today in our own land is to teach, and to teach emphatically, the dignity of labour and the nobility of Christian manhood." If that is so, the Church has a difficult job on hand. Most of the Church's best patrons shirk as much labour as possible, and consider it more dignified to get Mr. William Mug to do it. They don't see either Christian or Pagan manhood in it. But what is this? "The mission of the Church is to teach servants not to be over-anxious about material things, but rather to seek after the higher ideals of service." That teaching will not appeal to servants as much as to their masters. The servant who sees his pastors and masters "hoarding up treasures on earth," enjoying the good things of life, and dying in the odour of wealth and sanctity, will be apt to conclude that such teaching doesn't teach worth a pennorth o' peanuts.

ANCIENT AND MODERN SLAVES.

The slaves of old had a tradition of a universal deluge which swept away all human beings and institutions, and left but a single pair of workers—old Deucallion and his wife—to repeople the earth. For years before the deluge came, the old man had sounded a warning, but the warning fell on deaf ears, with the result that all but the two workers were destroyed in the flood. The slaves told this story to each other, and certain phophetic ones declared the earth's people would never again be destroyed by water, but would be subjected to an all-consuming fire. The slave-class is again sounding a warning that another cataclysm is coming, that the fire of revolt is already alight, and that ere long all present-day institutions and classes will be swept away and consumed in the flames of world-wide enthusiasm, and the birth of a new and better system.

The formation of the fake Labour party in New Zealand, known as the Social Democratic Party, has had the inevitable result of alarming and disgusting the Socialist section of the working class of that country. In another column we publish a statement by the Executive of the Wellington branch of the Socialist Party, which deals trenchantly with the matter and shows why no class-conscious Socialist can remain a member of the S.D.P. It explains a good deal and should be carefully read by Socialists of the Commonwealth.

New Zealand Socialists

Repudiate Labor Fakirs and approve of the attitude of the A.S.P. and the "International Socialist."

TO THE EDITOR,
"International Socialist,"
Sydney.

Dear Comrade,—Australian labour press to hand contains Mr. Hickey's famous report on the labour movement in New Zealand, by instruction of the United Federation of Labour's executive.

Mr. Hickey uses the term "irreconcilables" to the New Zealand Socialist Party, Wellington, a name flung at Mr. Hickey in days gone by, before he became the ultra-respectable Mr. Hickey, sub-editor, "Maoriland Worker," or respectable general secretary of the U.F.L. We wish to make it clear to our comrades of the A.S.P., and to readers of the "International Socialist," why we cannot unite with the Social Democratic Party, in its political job-hunting in the Hot-air Shop—New Zealand.

First, it is necessary to give a brief history of the S.D.P., and how it came into existence, also its aims, objects, and, of course, its innumerable planks. Our comrades in Australia will then easily see why we cannot amalgamate with the palliative preaching outfit.

After the Waihi strike, a conference was called by the N.Z. F.L. executive. This conference was to deal with industrial matters only. It, however, resolved itself into a political unity party. The N.Z. S.P. had no voice in that conference. Mr. Cooke, general secretary, took upon himself to represent the N.Z. S.P. Mr. Cooke spoke for himself only. The branches were not consulted, neither did the Wellington branch approve of Mr. Cooke as the representative. This January conference decided to hold a "Unity Conference" in July. To suit the promoters of the unity scheme, Mr. R. S. Ross, then editor of the "Maoriland Worker," Mr. Cooke, general secretary of the N.Z. S.P., and Mr. Howard, president, postponed the Easter conference of the N.Z. S.P until July.

The proposals of the unity conference were fully discussed between January and July, by the Wellington branch, and were finally turned down as anti-Socialist. The branch also refused to send a delegate.

The S.P. conference, held in July, was a farce, with the exception of Wellington all delegates were unity schemers. All remits were turned down on the pretext that they would not be working in harmony with the unity scheme. The conference was adjourned until the unity conference should decide. When it did so, they voted as did the unity conference.

After the conference the executive of the S.P. joined this State shippers, and Municipal Milkers' outfit. Most of the branches followed, with the result that the N.Z. S.P., Wellington, is the only independent Socialist Party in New Zealand to-day. The aims and objects of the S.D.P. is any old thing, from putting Massey out of power, and putting Ward in.

Their platform is the nationalisation of anything from ships, mines, and railways, to municipal milk motor-waggans.

This International Working Class organisation says:—Our conscription system is not a sufficient safeguard for the owners of New Zealand. This party want all adult males in the murdering machine, of course, with the ruling rates of pay; and the election of officers to be by democratic vote.

Any party that upholds militarism in any shape or form, is, in the opinion of the N.Z. S.P., Wellington, anti-Socialist, and an upholder of capitalism. In short, the S.D.P. outfit may be summed up in one word, viz., Reform.

The N.Z. S.P., Wellington, has no platform. Our objective is sufficient:—That the land, and the machinery of wealth production must be socially owned, and democratically controlled for the benefit of society as a whole. In a few words, we are out for the complete surrender of the master class. Industrially we are out for the abolition of craft unions, and the establishment of organisation by industries, in short, we advocate only revolutionary Socialism.

Because we do not support the State ship, etc., to Pure Milk Supply of the S.D.P., we are, according to Mr. Hickey, irreconcilables, yet this Plutish Pat condemned all these planks when writing in the Commonwealth (as Pat Hickey, the miner and Socialist). This Pat Hickey, when speaking in the Socialist Hall, Wellington, September, 1911, said political action is useless to the worker, but useful to the place hunter, yet a few days after, allowed himself to be nominated as Parliamentary candidate for Onehimuri. His manifesto on that occasion is a true product of the office seeker. Its first line ran:—"I am a New Zealander. I know our country's wants." This is the International Socialism of Mr. Hickey. The fact is that this Jingo Hickey, when somersaulting from Socialism to Lib-Labism, finds he gets severely handled in the transit, which he does not like. Mr. Hickey is an adept in the art of mudslinging. At the close of the late strike, Mr. Hickey and others denounced Mr. T. Young, president of the U.F. of L., as a traitor to the workers. They declared he betrayed the strikers (which by the way we think he did).

Mr. Young replied by saying, that he would engage the local Opera House and expose Mr Hickey. A few days afterwards there appeared in that respectable local, "Evening Post," an abject apology from Mr. Hickey, thus:—"Men are often blamed wrongly, and he believed Mr. Young was one of these, and, he appealed to Mr. Young to remain president of the U.F.L. The S.P. asks Mr. Hickey why he apologised, was he afraid of Mr. Young's exposure of him, and how is it that if Mr. Young betrayed the strikers, that he still remains president of the U.F.L.? We ask job-hunting Hickey to quit innuendo and answer these questions.

Mr. Semple, the man with a message to Australia recently, returned to New Zealand singing praises of the Great Australian Labour Party. He says:—"Everywhere I went I was treated with the conquering 'ero comes, come an-'ave-a-drink-wiv-me style." There are true men of the labour movement in Australia.

On the other hand, Mr. Semple at the Opera House, Wellington, denounced as scabs, those Industrialists and Socialists, who refused to pay press levies to the Australian Labour Party. This to the antimilitarist of two years ago, now the booster of the Conscriptionist Labour party of Australia. We shouted ourselves hoarse when a real live Socialist was elected to Parliament. (Mr. P. C. Webb, Grey bye-election, July, 1913.)

We ask readers of the "International Socialist" to read Mr. Webb's speech, delivered at Greymouth, March 26, 1914, and learn what Mr. Webb's Socialism is now. He eulogised Sir Joseph Ward as the greatest politician in New Zealand, and hoped he would be back (at his old job as Premier) during the next twelve months. This Jingo title-hunting Ward is the man who introduced the penal clause in the A. and C. Act, making it a crime to strike, who also introduced conscription into New Zealand, at the request of the money bugs, and the war trust of England, and who has gaoled hundreds of boys in New Zealand, who refused to join his murdering machine.

This Mr. Webb says that the aim of Labour and Liberal should be to put Massey out and put Ward in power. The worst is yet to come. Listen, you Internationals, Mr. Webb advocates an increase in New Zealand's contribution to the Imperial Navy, to protect N.Z. effectively, and incidentally to kill the German Social Democrats.

I think we have said enough to show why we cannot unite with the S.D.P. We can unhesitatingly say that no self-respecting class-conscious Socialist can remain in it. Already the sincere socialists are finding their position untenable, so we anticipate an increase in the army of Irreconcilables. Irreconcilables to capitalism and all its institutions, the S.D.P. included.

We congratulate our comrades of the A.S.P. on their uncompromising attitude to the Labour party, also on their paper with its splendid Socialist propaganda. Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours in Revolt,
The Executive,
New Zealand Socialist Party,
Wellington.

P.S.—For further references re levy see April 21 issue "Maoriland Worker."

per J.A.E.H., Secretary.

Volcanoes cast forth stones, and revolutions men; so families are removed to distant places; human beings come to pass their lives far from their native homes; groups of relatives and friends disperse and decay; strange people fall, as it were from the clouds.—VICTOR HUGO.

Public and private duty is in the end the same. What we owe to ourselves we owe to our neighbor. What we owe to our neighbor we owe to the whole world. This is the circle of humanity. Every man is bound to have a general knowledge of the institutions under which he lives, of the existing state of the world, and the progress which it has made. He is bound to encourage the progress of knowledge and education, to enquire calmly, and without prejudice what are the remedies for war, for poverty, for vice and for all other great mistakes and imperfections; and also, to take care, as far as in him lies, that society is made the better for his being a member of it.—LEIGH HUNT

The religion of our day does not satisify the intelligence of the people—the people have outgrown it. It shocks us, and we have to find another religion. We must have a religion of charity; one that will do away with poverty; close the prisons, and cover the world with happy homes.—INGERSOLL.

Men will ever be what it pleases women to make them. If you desire that the former become great and virtuous, teach the latter what grandeur of soul and virtue are.
—ROUSSEAU.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend.

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Made in Australia.

A Master Class Show.

The shops of Sydney are just now packed with shoddy, ill-made goods bearing the legend, "Made in Australia," and an appeal is made to the common working stiff, who trudges along the hard, dusty and dirty streets in ragged clothes and well-worn boots, to buy Australian made goods in order to build up the country and buy himself a job. There is grim humour in the appeal from a Socialist standpoint. It indicates the almost pathetic weakness of the capitalist system. The poor tattered wage-slave robbed of all but a bare existence, robbed of all but the shoddiest things which he has created, has got to buy the goods. He must buy and the capitalists must sell to him, for if the capitalists cannot sell him the goods, capitalism will go to ruin, and the whole system will perish from the face of the earth. For, mark you, the labourer is a wage-slave on one hand, but on the other he is the all-consuming, the universal, the world-wide market.

* * *

As I passed one window two thumping lies stared me in the face: "Made entirely in Australia by Australian workmen," the placard read. Two solid lies in one sentence. For of all the things that were ever made or grown, nothing was ever made or grown in this country without the use of the labour products of some other country. Before Australian wool can be produced, the land must be cleared and fenced, then imported shears and machinery are used on the sheep's back. Foreign grasses and fodder plants are cultivated. The sheep itself is a distinctly foreign creature and the patriotic Australian dingo is ruthlessly slain. There is not a capitalist country in the world to-day that does not import from other countries. And that other lie, "Made by Australian workmen." Who is the Australian workman? The native born works on the factory floor alongside Germans, Frenchmen, Italians, and Russians. He is a wage-slave and his labour is bought in the lump along with the rest. There is no nationality in the worshop.

* * *

What is all this factory-boosting business about? The capitalist to-day buys the labour-power of the worker (it is all that the worker has to sell) and uses it in producing commodities for sale. He does not aim at supplying human wants. He produces goods to sell them and he must sell them in order to turn over his capital. In seeking to turn his goods into money he comes into conflict with the capitalists of the world. Capitalism is everywhere seeking markets for the huge volume of goods which threatens to clog the wheels of industry. Only the extension of the market has saved the capitalist system up to the present, and Australia is one of those countries which has been a much-prized market for the expanding capitalism in the Old World. Now the Australian capitalist, eager to build up their own factories, are rapidly removing one of the world's markets. Further than that, they are aiming at competing with foreign capitalists in other markets. Rapidly Australia is ceasing to become a market. She is becoming a competitor in the world's market. Hugh V. Mackay, of Melbourne, is to-day selling his famous harvestors in Argentine and Algiers.

* * *

Under the capitalist system goods are produced for the world's market. Local tariff there may be (as in Australia) for the purpose of building up new manufacturing centres, but competition in the world's market determines the prices of goods. If the Australian manufacturer does not instal machinery as modern and economical (as "labour-saving" or labour displacing) as that of his rivals his tariff will not save him. "White Australia" is a great superstition, but a glance at the goods in some of Sydney's stores will show that the Japanese competes with the Australian worker now. He sends his goods here, and his master, the Jap. capitalist, is no more anxious than the White Australian fanatic that he should come here himself, for if he did he would take his labour-power and the master's profit with him. The cheapest of "cheap" labour cannot compete with modern machinery. From the very inception of machine industry English-made cottons have been sold in the heart of China at prices which the local hand-made product could not compete with.

* * *

So all this cry of making Australia self-reliant, of more factories and more work (which means in effect more slavery for the wage-slave and more profit for the master) simply amounts to boosting the master's interests. From the Socialist standpoint the building up of the industrial system in this country is a necessary process in the breaking down of the capitalist system the world over; but the Australian worker needs to be educated to some higher idea than that of wage-slavery. His slave mind must grasp some higher ideal than that of boosting the master's factories and promoting the interests of the "million club" before he will be able to work out his social and industrial emancipation.

* * *

Comrade Liebneckht, in the German Reichstag, has been making further exposures of the operations of the international armament trust. The effect of the last exposure was so far-reaching that it caused a popular demonstration in Japan, in which 50,000 people rushed the gates of Parliament House, as desecribed in the last issue of the "International Socialist Review." The trouble in Japan was that the Japanese bureaucracy was involved with some of the German syndicates. Will the one-eyed apostles of "Direct Action" please note?

* * *

A steamer has evaded the destroyer patrol and landed 21 machine guns (doubtless "made in Germany" like the last lot of Mauser rifles) in Ulster. How long would a capitalist government tolerate such proceedings if the Ulster shindy were a working class movement.

* * *

The conference of State and Federal treasurers in Melbourne proposes an amalgamation of the State and Commonwealth Savings Bank. Well, what if they do amalgamate? Will that remove the burden of wage-slavery from the backs of the working class. What do the State banks exist for? To collect the savings of the working class and loan them out to the large capitalist concerns to enable them to promote their capitalist enterprises. By means of the savings banks the workers are exploited even with their own savings. Do you, Mr. William Mug, imagine that your hard cash when once deposited on the bank counter, is locked securely in the vaults of the institution? If you, by virtue of your industry and loyal service of your master, have amassed wealth in the form of savings, will you, Mr. Mug, look inside the cover of that precious bank book, which makes you feel like a bloated capitalist? You will find there a clause which states very definitely that the State or Federal bank may in an industrial crisis stop payment of your savings for an indefinite period. Your savings are subject to the storm and stress of the capitalist market, and don't you forget it.

* * *

Some time ago the cables announced that an Italian named Ulivi had discovered a process whereby wireless rays could be emitted for the destruction of explosives at immense distances, and by means of which whole fleets might be secretly destroyed. The invention, it was reported, had been sold to the Italian Government. The opinion was ventured among Socialists that as such an invention would put the armament trust out of business, it would be suppressed. Now it appears, according to an announcement in the "Daily Telegraph," that an American named John Hays Hammond has also discovered this new machine, and applied it to a radio-boat. This seems to indicate that the new idea is not so difficult for radio experts to discover, and that it will prove difficult to suppress it. Sooner or later it is likely to fall into the hands of some working-stiff, who will give the master class legions on murder bent a severe shock.

EVOLUTION

The conclusion I arrive at after careful study, is, that man is descended from a lowly organised form, though it will, I regret to think, be distasteful to many. But there can hardly be a doubt that we are descended from barbarians. The astonishment which I felt on first seeing a party of Fijians on a wild and broken shore will never be forgotten by me, for the reflection at once rushed into my mind—such were our ancestors. These men were absolutely naked and bedaubed with paint, their long hair was tangled, their mouths frothed with excitement, and their expression was wild, startled, and distrustful. They possessed hardly any arts, and like wild beasts lived on what they could catch; they had no government, and were merciless to every one not of their own small tribe. He who has seen a savage in his native land will not feel much shame, if forced to acknowledge that the blood of some more humble creature flows in his veins.

For my own part I would as soon be descended from that heroic little monkey who braved his dreadful enemy in order to save the life of his keeper, or from that old baboon, who, descending from the mountains, carried away in triumph his young comrade from a crowd of astonished dogs, as from a savage who delights to torture his enemies, offers up bloody sacrifices, practises infanticide without remorse, treats his wives like slaves, knows no decency, and is haunted by the grossest superstitions. Man may be excused for feeling some pride at having risen, though not through his own exertions, to the very summit of the organic scale; and the fact of his having thus risen, instead of having been aboriginally placed there, may give him hope for a still higher destiny in the distant future. But we are not here concerned with hopes or fears, only with the truth as far as our reason permits us to discover it; and I have given the evidence to the best of my ability. We must, however, acknowledge, as it seems to me, that man with all his noble qualities, with sympathy which feels for the most debased, with benevolence which extends not only to other men, but to the humblest living creature' with his godlike intellect which has penetrated into the movement and constitution of the solar system, with all these exalted powers, man bears in his bodily frame the indelible stamp of his lowly origin.

—CHARLES DARWIN.

The Birth Strike.

The essays by "Ajax and Jayem" were very interesting and thought-compelling. Most of your readers would also highly appreciate the article reprinted from the "International Socialist Review." The following are my views; Do with them as you deem fit. For some time I have been rather puzzled over this subject. I am a seeker after knowledge. I'm not enquiring for a preventative. That was in my possession long ago, and I have passed it on to many Revolutionists. My trouble is Neo-Malthusianism in its relation to Socialism. It is a timely discussion, and in my opinion there is just a chance of Socialists being misled and sidetracked by this Neo-Malthusian philosophy. Under the competitive system, saving, temperance, prudence, etc., are sometimes boons to the individual worker, but only when just a few of the toilers practise these virtues. Were the whole of the workers to become as near and as abstemious as Chows, the capitalists would undoubtedly benefit, because the workers' cost of living would be lowered—hence a reduction in wages. And were the proletarians to concentrate their efforts wholly and solely upon the limitation of births, would not the capitalists lower our wages in accordance with the number of our children. Wages are based upon the workers' cost of subsistence, so if the average family in Australia were one child, Mr. Justice Higgins and Mr. Justice Heyden as well as the Wages Boards would award about £2 as the living wage. Surely this is self-evident. "Ajax" says: "By limiting the births the workers are withholding the fuel that feeds the Industrial furnace." Yes, but is not the mechanism of the furnace being perfected every day to the extent that it requires less and less fuel. Of course, the capitalist desire a plentiful supply of fuel, and no doubt the partial birth strike—which is now raging in our midst—is very distasteful to these owners of the furnace. However, the fact remains that notwithstanding our declining birth-rate, the demand for labour power is slackening faster. I am led to believe that had the population of the United States of America remained stationary during the last 25 years, there would be even now a vast horde of unemployed—due to the displacing of labour power by the evolution of the machine. The capitalist press is giving great publicity to an address delivered before the Royal Colonial Institute by C. V. Drysdale, D.Sc. This gentleman again brings forward the Malthusian assertion that population is being held in check by the shortage of food supply. To what extent does this great (?) Malthusian Law operate on civilisation to-day? Do the upper classes multiply to the limit of their food supply. No. Because of the use of preventative checks to conception—due to the spread of sexual education among this portion of society. We could give this same knowledge to the workers, but I think there would still be a shortage of food. The workers (the creators of all wealth) are exploited of all wealth over and above that which is barely enough to keep them. The owning class have wealth produced for profit, and consequently production is limited. Therefore, under capitalism, of what avails C. V. Drysdale, D.S.'s plea for the acceleration of food production or the Neo-Malthusian desire—which amounts to lessening the workers' expenses? The capitalist aim in production of all commodities is to supply just short of the demand. Under-production is the very soul of the system. Without shortage of supplies value would vanish. How different under Socialism! While capitalism lasts the proletarians by reducing their numbers, can remain nothing but disinherited dwellers on this earth. I am a Socialist first, then a class-conscious unionist, and lastly a Neo-Malthusian. Small families give both parents more leisure, liberty, and freedom, and consequently a great chance for intellectual impovement. The children are undoubtedly more efficient, happier, and better cared for. Father and mother are less burdened with care during strikes and unemployment. These considerations might counteract the wage reducing tendency of Neo-Malthusianism. But, remember, we who are for the birth strike must keep Socialism, Industrial Unionism, and a desire for a higher standard of living always in the foreground. We cannot expect a complete change in society otherwise.

A. CROWTHER.

Port Melbourne.

"The Church has set up a religion of pomp and revenue in the pretended imitation of a person whose life was humility"

—Thomas Paine.

Shall the clay say to the Potter Why hast thou formed me thus? "Yes" answered Paine, if the thing felt itself hurt and could speak, He knew as did Emerson, whom he often anticipates that "no god dare wrong a worm"—Moncure Conway.

Women in Colorado know that they can't turn on the kitchen faucet without bringing politics into their homes, and that every garbage can is a sphere entirely surrounded by politics.

—SENATOR HELEN RING ROBINSON.

Why?

By the Ed.

Why do trades unionists spend money to get Labour men into Parliament? Because they want someone there to represent them. The workers are finding out that all the old political parties represent only the employing class.

But does the present Labour party seek the welfare of the workers? No. What is the proof of this? We shall see.

In the first place, the Labour party says it represents the whole community. How can it do that? It can't. It is impossible. Cook's party says it represents the whole of the people. So that Labour and Liberal members have the same programme.

What is the real programme of the Liberals? Why, to look after the interests of the employers.

What does that mean? To keep wages low and working hours long.

What is the programme of the unionist? Why, to make wages high and working hours short. How, then, can anyone represent the employer and Unionist at the same time? He can't. When the Labour candidate says he is going to legislate for the whole community he is either honestly trying to do a silly and impossible thing—or he is telling a lie.

William Mug, don't you think it is time to put men into Parliament who will be brave enough and honest enough to say that they are going to seek the welfare of the workers only? Why do you spend your needed rest—your hardly won spare time in canvassing for wasters who are fooling you? Because you are too simple and trusting. You believe the promises of these tricksters who care only for a seat in Parliament—for a soft job at your expense.

What has the Labour party done this session for the workers? Did it rush an Eight Hours Bill through Parliament as soon as it got a substantial majority? No. Does it mean to do that? No.

When Cann says expensive ways of getting rid of dust in coal mines have to be carefully considered lest the mines close down he is whispering in your ear that he thinks more of the coal owner's profits than he does of your lives. He does not want to offend the employers whom you are fighting for the right to live.

Why has Griffith locked out the employees of the State brickworks? Could Wade have done anything worse? No, except gaol them! And Griffith might gaol them yet. He would like to.

Why has Hoyle not used his influence to put an end to the lockout at the Redfern railway tunnel? Because he has no sympathy with the workers. If he was in the mood to look after the interests of the workers in the tunnel he would have done something for them. He has done nothing.

Why did Estell say to the bakers that if they struck he would not bring in a Bill to give them day baking? Because he was badly wanting an excuse to leave them in the lurch. Why did Holman say that Estell spoke for the whole Cabinet? Because they are all tarred with the same brush. All of them are glad of an excuse for doing nothing for the workers. They are afraid that if they help you they will offend the employers.

Well, then, if they are so fond of the employers, let the employers vote for them. You have a bit of sense and vote for Socialists.

"SUNDAY FREEDOM ASSOCIATION"

A General Committee Meeting of this Association which was formed early in March to secure the repeal of inequitable "Sunday" laws, was held at Challis House on Friday night. The expenses of organisation to date, including the holding of the successful Protestant Hall meeting on 21st. April, had amounted to £17 12s. 11d., and this had been fully covered by donations and collections, and a considerable amount of useful printed matter remained for propaganda. As opportunities occur for public protest against "The Theatres and Public Halls act, 1908", they will be taken advantage of. The likelihood of the present Government removing the anomalies which exist under the Act by drastic amendment is very promising. In answer to notification by the Honorary Secretary of the resolution carried unanimously at the Public Meeting, the Government Under-Secretary replied that the matter would receive full consideration when the question of amending the Act engaged the attention of the Government. It appears likely that as soon as suitable opportunity occurs the matter will receive consideration, as it is evident from correspondence received that members of the Ministry, and many other members of the Assembly, are not only fully aware of the anomalies existing, but desire the amendment of the Act. The Hon. R. D. Meagher wrote saying that the Act should be drastically amended. Mr. J. J. Morrish, M.L.A. who was the principal speaker at the Protestant Hall meeting is warmly in favor of amendment, and may be relied upon to keep the desirabilty in Ministers' view.

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THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.

This paper is owned and published by Socialist working men.

It has no dividends to pay and no one is trying to make a profit out of it.

It is a revolutionary and not a reformist paper.

It has a keen sense of humor and takes the liberty of making fun of all shams and humbugs.

It has no respect for what most people call respectable.

It is frank, arrogant, impertinent, and dogmatic in searching for true causes.

It hits dogma and coercion as hard as it can.

It prints and publishes what is too naked and true for a money-making press to print.

It is a paper which says what is unpalatable and does what it pleases without conciliating anybody, not even its readers.

There is a need for such a publication in Australia.

Help us to find those who need it.

Yearly 4/-. Half-yearly 2/-.

Sir Ferguson Arrives.

In nineteen hundred and fourteen to Australia there came a Tory press bedecked knight, Sir Munro was his name.

He was book-stuffed to the bursting point regarding our good fame.

This gay bedecked and belted knight will surely knock our snobs, when the press begins to quote him as the leader of the nobs.

He will take the best position on the democratic roost, and will give the conscript army a most military boost.

He will tell them that their duty is to learn to drill and shoot, and defend the blokes who sit at home and collar all the loot.

And if a slight disturbance in the ranks of labor comes, he will tell them how to settle it by shooting at the bums.

He's a ruler born and bred to bamboozle the galoots, and the dandies of Australia aren't fit to black his boots.

He will boost the little navy and the makers of the guns, so the bishops in the War Trust can get billets for their sons.

And in Melbourne or in Sydney in a manner that is grand he will show 'em on the platform how to piffle to the land.

He will open shows and churches and attend the races too, just to keep the wowsers quiet and help the sporting gentry through.

He will let the Cooks and Fishers lick his boots and kiss his hands, while the music is proceeding from the military bands.

And the Parliament in Melbourne of the blooming Commonwealth will be opened by Sir Munro in the interests of wealth.

With a prayer to God to bless 'em and their labor for the cause of good old plutish government and capitalist laws.

And the Synods they will bless him and the press will boost him high while unto his smiling Aide de Camp he winks the other eye,

At the folly of the cornstalk and the innocence of Mug, who hoorays for lords and ladies who are living on the lug.

And Aldermen and Mayors they will boom Sir Munro too and at banquets and receptions they will too-ra-loo-ra-loo.

They will "fill em up" and toast him at the citzens' expence, till his flunkeys have to help him when he has to wander hence.

He is pious, he is sporty, he is stuffed with booky lore, so what the blanky blanky does Australia want more.

He can "golf" and play at euchre, he can piffle to galoots who will crawl upon their bingies just to lick his nobby boots.

He can hold his stick and eyeglass, drink his whisky or champagne, ride on horseback or in motors, or upon a railway train.

In fact there isn't anything Sir Munro cannot do from preying up to preaching in a manner that is new.

But the greatest of the greatest things Sir Ferguson attacks is the manner that he takes his seat upon the workers' backs.

EDWARD SEARLE.
Farmer,
Eungai Creek, North Coast, N.S.W.

On The Lookout.

Mr. Badgery, M.L.A., at the Shires' Conference in Sydney recently promised to resist strongly the granting of manhood suffrage at municipal elections, as such would be a gross injustice to ratepayers. It didn't occur to him that it is a gross injustice to the workers that while the parasites have money enough to become ratepayers, the workers generally have not.

Captain Glossop, of H.M.A.S. "Sydney," said at Port Darwin, that as soon as the Australian sailors knew what discipline was they would be all right. The soft saying of Glossop, of course, means that as soon as the sailors are ready to go to hell for his glorifications, he will be all right.

A committee appointed by the Anglican clergy in England, affirming the efficacy of prayer in curing diseases, recommends the co-operation of the doctor and the clergyman. The doctor and the cleric have already for some time, co-operated in lifting the workers' pockets.

Sir Ian Hamilton, in speaking about the recent military riots in New Zealand, where conscripts had been starved and maltreated, said that the matter was trivial. The defence scheme was in its infancy; in a couple of years' time such incidents would not happen. It is clear from this that Sir Ian hopes that he will be able to crush the last remainder of self-respect out of the conscripts in a few years' time.

The employers' expenses in the recent cost of living inquiry by Judge Heydon in Sydney was £5,000, says Mr. Fox, a member of the Employers' Federation. The employers ought to be able to buy a favourable decision for such a price.

A recent edition of the Sydney "Navvy" has some trenchant criticisms on Mr. Griffiths: "It is too late in the day to talk of justice to all classes of the community. The Labour party was elected for the purpose of obtaining justice for one class only, and that is the workers." The paper says: The critic is right when he says that it is rubbish to talk about doing justice to all classes, seeing that there is only one useful class—the working class. But evidently he forgets that Mr. Griffiths said before last elections that the Labour party had ceased to represent one class, it represented all classes.

The crafts unions have practically closed the door to young people who wish to learn a trade by restricting apprenticeship Perhaps they want all Australians to become unskilled workers.

Mr. Pratten, the president of the New South Wales Chamber of Commerce, said in a speech last week that an antidote was necessary to kill off those dangerous little microbes called industrial law-breakers, and he called upon the legislator to kill them off in order to keep their oaths to the King. He was cheered to the echo by the capitalists present. No doubt they know someone has to be killed off, and they think it advisable to get in first.

H.C.

THE "INTERNATIONAL" POSTBAG.

A Criticism.

(To the Editor.)

Just come into my possession is a 4 p.p. leaflet of the A.S.P., its "Principles and Policy."

Having read it through carefully, and being unable to understand it, I venture to write you for a lucid explanation, and feeling sure you will comply I now proceed to state my case as follows:—

"There is no escape from the thraldom of capitalism short of its complete overthrow."

"Resolved that the A.S.P. declares against a program of palliatives."

The two statements above are taken from the leaflet in question, and are quite definite, but what can be said of the following, and how they are reconciled by the party I would like to know.

A.S.P. GUIDING RULE.

"Will the proposal advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will the A.S.P. is for it; if it will not the A.S.P. is absolutely opposed to it."

This seems to imply a party doubt as to the inefficacy of all palliatives.

"The A.S.P. declares for and supports the principle of secular education in State schools and against subsidising denominational schools."

Apparently the party mentally rescinded the first two resolutions, for here is the unadulterated advocacy of *palliative measures*.

Now, reverting back to your "objective," "the social ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange."

On this I would like to be enlightened. It seems to me that "If, on the death of capitalism, that 'capital' as 'capital' will cease to exist, it must necessarily follow that 'exchange' as 'exchange' must cease to function at the birth of Socialism," therefore I am driven to the conclusion that words and whole phrases are used which are not understood by those who utter them, and have at last developed into mere shibboleths.

I am the last person on earth to argue, and to quibble I disdain. I write you as an earnest seeker for the truth which you proclaim to dispense.

Enclosed please find 2d in stamps to cover paper and postage containing the reply to my queries.

Failing a reply, devote the money to the navy or hospital or any cause you consider deserving.—I am, yours faithfully,

A. GOODING.
"Nenagh,"
Imperial-avenue, Bondi.

May 7th, 1914.

Mr. Gooding heads his letter "A Criticism," and immediately proceeds to criticise what he admits he doesn't understand.

If he had understood before he criticised he would have seen that it is quite logical to declare against a programme of palliatives, and then to declare in favor of submitting any proposal that might be made to the test of the guiding rule.

A programme of palliatives would bring a revolutionary Socialist party to the level of reformism and laborism. On the other hand, the capitalists might make the mistake of proposing something that would advance the interests of the working class in their class struggle. Such a proposal would have to be more of a revolutionary than of a palliative character before it would stand the acid of the guiding rule.

Then as to secular education. At present we have a modified denominational education: a system of secular education which cut out the privilege of the clericals to enter the schools would be a revolution of the present system. Education with theology cut out would be more revolutionary than with it in. Moreover, secular education helps towards revolution in spite of much false teaching in the schools. The Multiplication Table, Euclid's Elements, Geometry, Mathematics all tend to methodical and logical reasoning, and hence to a correct view of sociology. The mind of the scholar is being accustomed, slowly, it may be, to deal with material things, and rely on them rather than upon prayer and miracles. Secular education, as opposed to denominational education, is revolutionary.

On the Objective Mr. Gooding confuses himself. The socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange would certainly mean that such "means" would no longer function as they do now for the benefit of private owners. But production, distribution, and exchange would still go on.

If Mr. Gooding will send the Admiral round we shall be glad to hand him the "tuppence" he says we can devote to the navy. Or perhaps the Chief Secretary might be induced to call and receive it on behalf of the hospitals. Anyhow, it is here to be collected, for we haven't time to write to either our correspondent or the Admiral or Chief Secretary about the matter.—Ed.

Comrade Editor;

With much pleasure I ask you to forward the enclosed amount, which is a donation of five shillings each from Comrades Jack Lund, Valdemar Lund, and self for the Brisbane Free Speech Fund to the right address. The brave way the Comrades in Brisbane are carrying on the fight is much admired by the few Socialists here, as also is the little class conscious, uncompromising "I.S." from which we gain working class news. From personal experience, and I have been a reader of Socialist papers in two languages and three nationalities, I must say that the "I.S." as a Socialist paper is second to none In the hope that Freedom of Speech will be won in Brisbane, and that the "I.S." will grow in pages' I remain yours for the revolution.

—George Lammer.

P.O. Carnarvon, Gascoigne, W.A.

Dear Comrade:

Find enclosed a little sustenance for the little red rebel. It is good and will grow. May it be as great in its bigness as it is big in its littleness' Fraternally Yours.—C. Clifford.

Dear Comrade,

I have subscribed to your paper for some years, and have admired the ability, courage and sincerity with which it has waged battle, and striven to teach and uphold Socialism.

I therefore regret to learn from issue of May 2, that the paper should be in well nigh desperate straits. I trust comrades and friends will haste to the rescue.

I should have liked to make my mite one pound but cheerfully send half-on the principle,

"Who gives quickly gives twice"

Postal note for 10s.—John Webster, Vic.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.
General Secretary: J. W. ROCHE.
Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

Administration Council meets on Saturday, May 30 Branches are urged to send delegates.

J. W. ROCHE,
General Secretary.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Owing to unfavorable weather Sunday meeting in the Domain had to be postponed In the evening Denford, Healy, Roche, Slade, and Mrs. Paul addressed a good meeting in Market-St.

J.W.Roche will lecture on Sunday May 24, in the Domain. Subject; "Socialism and Home Life.".

D. Healy will lecture on Sunday, May 31, on "The War in Mexico and Wars of Modern Times."

Next branch meeting will be held at Headquarte, 115 Goulburn-st.

BRISBANE.

The ordinary routine has been disturbed a little by the efforts of the local Bakers endeavoring to gain by Direct Action what constitutional means could not win for them. A few weeks ago Justice Rich (fitting name) sent forth the fiat that the operative Bakers must continue night baking This was not to the liking of the operatives. They intimated to the bosses that they had finished with night work but were prepared to continue slaving in the day. Sixteen profiteers saw the folly of resistance and gave way to the mens demands, incidentally reaping a little kudos by capturing the other fellows' trade.

Meetings ar being held in every part of the city, many of our comrades assisting.

The greater number of bosses are still adamant, but the prospects are good for a win. We have taken this struggle as a lesson to point out to the workers our position as a revolutionary Party and its attitude towards working class reform efforts.

A few days ago Camrades Jack and Mrs. Read lost, by death, their baby girl. The sympathies of members of this local are with our bereaved comrades.

Our financial position is not too strong just now but we hope to augment the funds by a Social and Dance to be held at Merton Road Hall, on Sat. June 13.

GORDON BROWN,
Organising Secretary.

On Friday evening comrades Trott, Crokie, and J. R. Wilson journeyed to Collingwood, and held a most successful meeting Trott and Wilson doing the speaking, whilst comrade Crokie disposed of the literature.

On Sunday afternoon, on the Yarra Bank, Comrade Speers in the chair, a large and interested audience listened to fighting speeches from Trott, Jeffrey, Wilson, and Joyce, all of whom dealt with the action of the wharf-laborers' union in refusing to accept as members several men who made application for membership. The increasing of the union initiation fee was also handled as well as the other undesirable features of craft unionism. Several comrades and friends claimed it was the best meeting ever held on the Bank, and this is further borne out by the fact that camrade Lazarus, our energetic Literrture Secretary, reported the largest sale of Literature in the history of the branch.

The Sunday evening meeting held at branch headquarters was not so largely attended as the previous Sunday's meeting, but those who were present agree that Mr. Howie, of the Freedom League, who was the speaker, was in good form when he spoke upon "The Quaker attitude towards Armed Defence."

Thursday saw a good attendance at headquarters, when Mr. Heathcote spoke under our auspices, his subject being, "Does Matter Exist?" Mrs. Jessie McDonald ably presided and there was some interesting discussion at the close. Although the majority present heartily disagreed with the speaker, all went away feeling they had spent a profitable and enjoyable evening.

As usual, Dances were held on Monday and Saturday. As the Monday dance is not all it should be from the standpoint of attendance, Members are asked to put in an appearance in future if possible.

Comrades and friends are asked to note that a Euchre Party Social and Dance will be held on Thursday, May 28, also, that the charge for admission for both sexes is 6d.

J. R. WILSON,
Secretary.

NEWTOWN.

Good meetings were held by the branch during the weekend. On Friday Lewis, Brown, and Kilburn held a good meeting at Campsie, and McCormick and Page had a meeting at which a few Liberals with capitalist ambitions attended to air their lack of knowledge. On Sunday night Kilburn, Jackson, and Brown addressed a meeting at the bridge and did good work. Papers sold out.

W. J. PAGE, Sec.

Since the comment on the State Brickworks strike, which appears on page 2 of of this issue, was printed, the Labor government has climbed down and work has been resumed. The two victimised men have been reinstated, and the men have won a signal victory.

SUB CARDS SOLD.

—Hilder 7, Jackson 4, Wagner 5, Harley 4, Rutherford 4, Slade 3, Shultz 2.

Other Subs Received

J. West 1s., T. Bartlem 4s., W. J. Dickson 1s., N. Glarris 1s., S. Poulsen 4s., T.J. Woodbnry 1s., Jim Hillis 1s., C. Pilcher 1s., W.W. Harding 1s.

PRESS FUND.

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